

First Presbyterian
Church of Ocean City



“The Gospel
according to
Micah”

May 3, 2026

701 Wesley Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226
609.399.1833 | www.firstpresocnj.net

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Kim Murphy

We Enter God's Presence

Organ Prelude

"Are Ye Able"

(Mason/Pugh/arr. Martin)

Responsive Call to Worship - Psalm 121:1-2

Elder Kim Murphy

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills.

People: From where does my help come?

Leader: My help comes from the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

*Hymn "I Lift My Eyes Up to the Hills "

(DUNDEE)

Please follow along on the screen for lyrics

*Prayer of Invocation & The Lord's Prayer

Elder Kim Murphy

Scripture Reading - John 16:16-33

Toni Esposito

Unison Prayer of Confession

Elder Kim Murphy

Heavenly Father, you told us that in this world we would have trials. Jesus told us that he has overcome those trials. And yet, we seek to solve our problems on our own. We become angry and discouraged. We do not look to you. Forgive us. Forgive us for looking for comfort in all the wrong places. Give us a heart that rests in you. Transform our sorrow into joy by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

In a word or phrase, you may share a confession to God quietly.

Assurance of God's Pardon - Isaiah 40:1-2

Elder Kim Murphy

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Confession of Faith - Heidelberg W. 25 Q 65-68

Elder Kim Murphy

Q & A 65

Q. It is through faith alone that we share in Christ and all his benefits: where then does that faith come from?

A. The Holy Spirit produces it in our hearts by the preaching of the holy gospel, and confirms it by the use of the holy sacraments.

(John 3:5; 1 Cor. 2:10-14; Eph. 2:8; Rom. 10:17; 1 Pet. 1:23-25; Matt. 28:19-20; 1 Cor. 10:16)

Q & A 66

Q. What are sacraments?

A. Sacraments are visible, holy signs and seals. They were instituted by God so that by our use of them he might make us understand more clearly the promise of the gospel, and seal that promise. And this is God's gospel promise: to grant us forgiveness of sins and eternal life by grace because of Christ's one sacrifice accomplished on the cross.

(Gen. 17:11; Deut. 30:6; Rom. 4:11; Matt. 26:27-28; Acts 2:38; Heb. 10:10)

Q & A 67

Q. Are both the word and the sacraments then intended to focus our faith on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross as the only ground of our salvation?

A. Yes! In the gospel the Holy Spirit teaches us and by the holy sacraments confirms that our entire salvation rests on Christ's one sacrifice for us on the cross.

(Rom. 6:3; 1 Cor. 11:26; Gal. 3:27)

Q & A 68

Q. How many sacraments did Christ institute in the New Testament?

A. Two: holy baptism and the holy supper.

(Matt. 28:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26)

Tithes and Offerings

“Victory In Jesus”

(Bartlett/arr. Fettke)

*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Elder Kim Murphy

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Luke Bert

*Songs of Worship

“Man of Sorrows”

(Crocker/Ligertwood)

“I Will Wait For You” – Psalm 130

(Townend/Getty/Kauflin/Merker)

(At this time, children may leave to attend Children's Church led by Gretchen Murphy)

Sermon

Pastor Luke Bert

Micah 7:1-7 | The Harvest

*Hymn No. 534

“Draw Me Nearer”

(I AM THINE)

We Leave to Serve in God's World

*Benediction

Pastor Luke Bert

Postlude

“Immortal, Invisible”

(arr. Broughton)

*Congregation will please rise

Note: Please take this bulletin home with you. Please do not leave it in the pew.

After worship service, there will be Church Elders available to pray for you and with you in the Narthex

Sermon | Micah 7:1-7

1 Woe is me! For I have become
as when the summer fruit has been gathered,
as when the grapes have been gleaned:
there is no cluster to eat,
no first-ripe fig that my soul desires.
2 The godly has perished from the earth,
and there is no one upright among mankind;
they all lie in wait for blood,
and each hunts the other with a net.
3 Their hands are on what is evil, to do it well;
the prince and the judge ask for a bribe,
and the great man utters the evil desire of his soul;
thus they weave it together.
4 The best of them is like a brier,
the most upright of them a thorn hedge.
The day of your watchmen, of your punishment,
has come;
now their confusion is at hand.

5 Put no trust in a neighbor;
have no confidence in a friend;
guard the doors of your mouth
from her who lies in your arms;
6 for the son treats the father with contempt,
the daughter rises up against her mother,
the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
a man's enemies are the men of his own house.
7 But as for me, I will look to the Lord;
I will wait for the God of my salvation;
my God will hear me.

Tithes and Offerings | "Victory In Jesus"

Chorus

O victory in Jesus
My Savior forever
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood

Verse 1

I heard an old old story
How a Savior came from glory
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me
I heard about His groaning
Of His precious blood's atoning
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory

Verse 2

I heard about His healing
Of His cleansing pow'r revealing
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see
And then I cried dear Jesus
Come and heal my broken spirit
And somehow Jesus came and brought
To me the victory

Verse 3

I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea
About the angels singing
And the old redemption story
And some sweet day I'll sing up there
The song of victory

Eugene M. Bartlett
CCLI Song #1259

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Day of Prayer

First Presbyterian and Ocean City Tabernacle come together for The National Day of Prayer on May 7th. Join us at The Tabernacle at 6:00pm as we pray for our city and nation.
www.nationaldayofprayer.org

After Worship Refreshments are back!

Join us every month after communion Sunday in Fellowship Hall for after worship refreshments. Sign ups are on the app and downstairs on the bulletin board.

FPC Ladies

Daughters of the King
Mon. May 11th @ 7:00pm

Salem Bible Study
Tues. May 12th @ 1:00pm
(Last meeting until September)

Did you know we have fresh coffee downstairs in fellowship hall?

Join us before and/or after service for a fresh cup of coffee and fellowship to connect with your Pastor, elders, new and old friends!

Summer Greeters Needed!

If you are interested in signing up to be a greeter this summer, please contact Cherie Arias for more information!

Small Groups Are Back!

Starting again April 12th - May 23rd. If you would like to join or change your small groups; contact your leader. If you would like to host a new small group, see Pastor Luke!

Next Week's Sermon:

Micah 7:8-20 | Who is Like God?

June / July / August Newsletter

Please have all articles and announcements to Breanna by Friday, May 15th

Men's Bible Study

will meet on Thursday, May 14th at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall



Prayer Group meets Tuesdays at 2:30pm in the classroom near the parking lot entrance. Join us as we pray for our church among other needs. All are welcome.

Church App!

Have you downloaded our church app yet?

- Go to your Google or Apple App Store
- Search "First Presbyterian Church OCNJ"
- The image on the app is the PCA logo
- Download
- Create Account
- Here you will be able to watch sermons, make prayer requests, connect, read the bible and have access to online giving.



ONLINE GIVING
<< SCAN HERE

OR AVAILABLE ON CHURCH WEBSITE

YOUTH

Wednesday, May 6 - Lounge Study & Games | 6:00pm
High School - Church Lounge | Grades 4-8 - Church Youth Room

Wednesday, May 13 - Shuffle Board & Ice Cream
6:00pm - 8:00pm | All are welcome | Meet at Church

Wednesday, May 27 - VBS Art Night
6:00pm - 8:00pm | All are welcome | Fellowship Hall
Drawing, painting, puppets and constructing! Wear your painting clothes!



Vacation Bible School

Emerald Crossing: An Irish Adventure Through Psalm 23

Monday through Friday August 3rd - 7th, 2026

9:00am - 12:15pm | Ages 4 - 6th Grade

If you are interested in helping with VBS this year,
please contact Connie Young or Gretchen Murphy!

Volunteers Needed – Children’s Ministry

We’re looking for volunteers to serve in Sunday School, Children’s Church, and the Nursery. Whether you can help weekly, monthly, or as a substitute, your time can make a lasting difference in the lives of our children.

For more information or to get involved, please contact
Connie Young or Kristen Ali.

Thank you for prayerfully considering serving!

New for Youth!

We now have fidget toys available downstairs by the kid's table in the entrance. Kids can take one for service and put them in the used box below to be cleaned.

Childcare is provided during the 10:30am Sunday Church Service.
There is a fully stocked and staffed nursery downstairs for newborn - 3 years old.

Children’s Church (4 - 10 years old) is after Praise and Worship.
Please contact Connie Young for more details!

WELCOME

Our vision is to see our Church and our communities delighting in God, passionately following Jesus, and loving all people.

Welcome Visitors! Glad you could join us. Please fill out the **CONNECT CARDS** located in the pews. We want to connect with you, pray with you, and welcome you to church. Please place them in the offering plate or in the basket in the Narthex. If you are visiting for the first time, please ask one of the ushers for a **first-time visitor's packet**.



First Pres Business Cards are in the Narthex, please take some and hand them out to invite family, friends and others to join us in fellowship here at First Pres!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children and adults meets every Sunday at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall
Contact: Kevin Olandt | All are welcome and child care can be provided!

Adult Sunday School

- Verse by verse Bible Study
 - Ezra–Nehemiah

Pre K - 12th Grade

- Spring Session
 - The Gospel Project - The Son Has Come!

Contact Us:

Senior Pastor: Pastor Luke Bert - PastorLuke@firstpresocnj.net

Director of Music and Family Ministry: Kim Murphy - Kim.Murphy@firstpresocnj.net

Secretary: Breanna Young - Hello@firstpresocnj.net

Tech Manager: Dan Ahmad - Tech@firstpresocnj.net

Organist and Choir Director: Renee Tobias

Custodian: Jack Shea

Greeters: Cherie Arias & Peg Davis

Ushers: Carol Evans, Bob Krayner, Gregg Matis, Jack Shea, Jane Shea

Bulletin Announcements, Prayer Requests & Newsletter Please be sure to email all bulletin announcements, newsletter articles, and updates to Breanna at hello@firstpresocnj.net

June / July / August Newsletter: Please have all articles and announcements to Breanna by 5/15



First Presbyterian is a biblical, confessional, Reformed congregation, of the PCA, committed to the Good News of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible (the Word of God). We are called to glorify the Triune God and enjoy Him forever.